

13 Should not go with me, William
diffidently suggests that he would like to share
my bed with your permission. Wendell will also
go if he is now absent, lecturing with A. M. Powell.

2.m Boston, Nov. 14, 1863. 67

My dear McKim:

I have been altogether too tardy in returning my thanks for several letters received from you, in regard to the approaching Decade. I am much obliged to you for the various suggestions contained in them, and do not know that I have any to proffer in return. I was, at first, strongly inclined to advocate holding three sessions each day; but, in view of the conclusion to which you and our other Philadelphia friends have come, and also of the extreme brevity of the afternoons in December, I am entirely reconciled to the proposition for only two sessions a day. Nevertheless, I am afraid we shall find it both a difficult and a delicate matter to decide who shall be the speakers among so many as will in all probability be present, each one of whom may desire to be heard.

It cannot well be a "free meeting," in our ordinary use of the term. There are certain persons who must have precedence of others. For instance — Wendell Phillips, S. J. May, Lucretia Mott, ^{Mary Grew,} Robert Purvis, J. M. McKim, and Beniah Green. I do not know whether the last named will be with us; but should he do so, it will be no more than courteous to ask him to speak, in view of the admirable part he performed at the issuing of the Declaration of Sentiments. Yet I fear he is in a somewhat morbid state of mind relative to the Administration and the Rebellion, and would be more inclined to criminate the former than to denounce the latter.

I trust ~~that~~ dear Lucretia Mott, Mary Grew, and Robert Purvis will not fail to speak, — ably representing, as they would, by their sex and complexion, those features of our struggle of which we have all been so jealous and so proud. You must give us your reminiscences, and whatever else

may occur to you. At the opening session, it will doubtless be deemed pertinent to have the Declaration of Sentiments read. That task I will perform, adding a supplementary paper, giving a brief sketch of our Anti-Slavery struggle.

Do you know whether Anna Dickinson is to be at home at that time? and, if so, would she be inclined to be among our speakers?

Theodore Tilton tells me he will aim to be present. Whether Parker Pillsbury, or Stephen and Abby Foster, will be with us, I do not know.

Mr. May has sent out a large number of printed invitations to various persons to be at the celebration, — not expecting, however, that many will be able personally to attend. Of course, if our friend Gerrit Smith should be on hand, every one will expect a speech from him. He writes me that he has overworked himself of late, and needs repose.

W. L. Garrison

We have invited Arthur Tappan,
but neither Lewis⁶³ nor Joshua Leavitt.

May we be spared the presence of
C. W. Denison! But I fear it will suit
him to be prominent, if he can, on the
occasion. He is a strange compound.

Of the whole number of signers
of the Declaration, I believe only one—James
F. Otis—ever repudiated its anti-slavery
principles and doctrines.

How shall we be able to procure
an accurate list of the names of the sign-
ers who have died since 1833?

My friend A. H. Love has written
to me in regard to giving a lecture in
Concert Hall an evening or two pre-
ceding the Decade meeting. He will prob-
ably show you my reply, as I requested
him to obtain your judgment.

Thanks for your proffered hospi-
tality! It is most gratefully accepted. It
is doubtful whether Mrs. G. will be able to
accompany me, but I shall try to get her
consent. Yours, fraternally, Wm Lloyd Garrison.

Our entire household send loving regards to yours.